



Practitioner's Docket No. 16904-727

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Group 3700

In re application of: Knowlton)
Serial No.: 09/003,098) Group No.: 3739
Filed: 01/06/1998) Examiner: Shay, D.
For: Method and Apparatus for Controlled)
Contraction of Collagen Tissue)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Responsive to the Office Action mailed January 26, 1999, please consider the following amendments and remarks.

In the Claims:

1. (Amended) A method of treating a loose skin surface overlying a collagen tissue site, comprising:
identifying a person suspected of having a the loose skin surface;
providing an energy source with an energy delivery surface;
positioning the energy delivery surface on the loose skin surface;
creating a reverse thermal gradient, wherein a temperature of the skin surface is less than a
temperature of the collagen containing tissue; and
delivering a sufficient amount of energy through the skin surface to contract at least a portion of the
collagen containing tissue with controlled cell necrosis in the skin surface to tighten the loose skin surface. [;
and
tightening the loose skin surface]

3. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a sufficient amount of energy is delivered through the
loose skin surface [with a reduced] while minimizing cell necrosis in a skin layer.